

**What to Plant**

**Bedding Plants:** Even though temperatures are still warm, begin planting for the cooler months ahead. Digitalis (foxglove), petunia, and shasta daisy are good plants for the fall garden. **See:** [Gardening with Annuals in Florida](#)

**Bulbs:** There are many daffodils that are suitable for Florida. Fragrant varieties include 'Carlton', 'Fortune', 'Silver Chimes', 'Thallia', and 'Sweetness'. **See:** [Bulbs for Florida](#)

**Herbs:** A wide range of herbs can be planted from seeds or plants this month. Some to try are dill, fennel, oregano, and sage. **See:** [Herbs in the Florida Garden](#)

**Vegetables:** Plant crops now that will grow and produce through the winter months. This includes beet, Brussels sprout, carrot, and onion. **See:** [Florida Vegetable Gardening Guide](#)

**What to Do**

**Lawn weeds:** The time to control winter weeds in lawns is before they appear. Pre-emergent herbicides must be applied at the right time to be effective. Apply when nighttime temps are 55-60°F for 4-5 days. Avoid weed and feed products. **See:** [Weed Management in Home Lawns](#)

**Winter landscapes:** Evergreen hollies and their bright berries add color to the landscape when other plants have died back for the winter. Water well when planting and mulch to minimize weeds. **See:** [Hollies at a Glance](#) [Planting Shrubs in Florida Landscapes](#)

**Pine needles:** Gather pine needles that are dropping and use them for a natural mulch. **See:** [Landscape Mulches: What are the choices in Florida?](#)

**Strawberries:** Prepare beds and set strawberry plants this month. If there isn't room for a bed, try planting them in large containers. Either way provide daily watering until plants are established. **See:** [Growing Strawberries in the Florida Home Garden](#)

**Lawns:** Lawns will start to lose color as the weather cools. For a green lawn all winter, overseed with annual ryegrass when daytime temps are in the low 70's. **See:** [Overseeding Florida Lawns for Winter Color](#)

**Lawn disease:** Until May, watch for brown patch and large patch, fungal diseases that cause areas of grass to turn brown. Since treatment is difficult, prevention with proper cultural practices is key. The disease becomes active when the soil temp, measured 2-4" deep, is between 65-75°F. **See:** [Brown Patch](#)

**What to Do Every Month**

- Adjust irrigation based on rainfall.
- Deadhead flowers to encourage new blooms.
- Monitor the garden for insects and disease.
- Plant trees, shrubs, and perennials and water until established.
- [Mow lawns](#) at recommended heights:
  - St. Augustine & Bahia: 3-4"
  - Centipede: 1.5-2.0"
  - Dwarf St. Augustine: 2.5"
  - [Zoysiagrass](#)

**UF Resources For Gardeners**

- UF/IFAS Publications (EDIS) <http://edis.ifas.ufl.edu/>
- Florida-Friendly Landscaping <http://fyn.ifas.ufl.edu/>
- Solutions For Your Life <http://solutionsforyourlife.com>
- *Gardening in a Minute* Radio Program <http://gardeninginaminute.com>
- Florida Master Gardener Program <http://gardeningolutions.ifas.ufl.edu/mastergardener/>
- Living Green <http://livinggreen.ifas.ufl.edu/>

**Comments or suggestions?**

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**Florida Gardening Calendar**

